



March 7, 2022

Energy and Technology Committee
Legislative Office Building
Room 3900
Hartford, CT 06016

RE: SB 278, AN ACT REQUIRING MULTICHANNEL VIDEO PROGRAMMING DISTRIBUTORS TO PAY
COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAMMING FEE.

Dear Members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

We are writing to express our concern with SB 278, An Act Requiring Multichannel Video Programming Distributors to Pay Community Access Programming Fee, as we believe that this bill is an unnecessary tax on consumers and that there are more effective and efficient ways to address this issue.

The Greater Norwalk Chamber understands and appreciates the value of public access programming, but the delivery methods need to be brought into the 21st century. The development of a grant program that rewards innovation and operational efficiencies to encourage the adoption of streaming would be more effective. And we should urge those who need guidance and education to start using these methods for public access programming.

Moreover, the per subscriber fee for community access should be eliminated to lower customer cable bills and to reflect reduced use and demand for community access, and the availability of alternate platforms. As a result of advances in technology, the costs of administering community access programming have greatly declined, reducing the need for these fees on video subscribers.

We encourage the Energy and Technology Committee to eliminate this unnecessary tax on consumers and oppose SB 278.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Griffin', followed by a long, horizontal, wavy line extending to the right.

Brian Griffin
President